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By his Excellency
Thomas Chittenden Esquire
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State
of Vermont

A PROCLAMATION

It being the indispensible duty of a community to acknowledge their dependence on the supreme Disposer and Governor of all events, and humble themselves for their sins under the rebukes of his righteous hand; and particularly seasonable at the opening of the year: that the people of this State should entirely acknowledge his blessings of which their multiplied transgressions render them unworthy:

I have therefore thought fit to appoint, and by and with the advice of the Council, do hereby appoint Wednesday the twenty seventh day of April next, to be observed throughout this State as a day of public Humiliation Fasting & prayer: And I do exhort both both ministers and people of every religious denomination, to assemble in their respective congregations on that day, and with deep contrite contrition and penetence of heart, to confess their sins to almighty G.O.D. and implore the forgiveness of them, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our saviour; at the same time resolving by the assistance of grace, not only to forsake them, but to bring forth the fruits of a virtuous, holy life, Earnestly beseeching him, that he would be pleased to stop every vice, immorality and error; that he would, for this end, grant the special influence of his holy Spirit, to convert men from the error of their ways — and cause pure and undefiled religion to revive and spread through the land; that he would build up churches in the simplicity and fellowship of the gospel — and cause a spirit of mutual love, forbearance, and charity to revive and prevail among the professors of our holy religion; that he would bless and succeed the institutes means of gospel instruction — and grant to destitute Congregations and churches faithful and able pastors and teachers

that he would bless and direct the legislative executive and judiciary departments of the state, that our rulers may be examples of virtue and piety to their subjects; that by a proper exercise of their authority they may be a terror to the wicked, and the promoters and encouragers of virtue; that a spirit of union, and obedience to the laws of the state, might prevail among all ranks of men; that he would build up and prosper seminaries and schools of learning, that our youth may be trained up to all useful knowledge; that he would prosper our husbandry, manufactures, and every branch of useful commerce; bring forward the the spring of the year in mercy; bring forward the spring of the year in mercy; crown the year with health, peace, and plenty, and every needful effect of his goodness; save from drought, frosts, insects: and every desolating judgment; that he would bless the United States of America, succeed their councils at home, and negotiations abroad; preserve and strengthen their union — bless their allies, and render the connection formed with them mutually beneficial; that he would grant wisdom and council to their legislative, executive, and judiciary department; that he would prolong, and render eminently useful the life of the president of the United States of America; and that he would establish and build up the peaceful, glorious kingdom of GOD, over ALL UP throughout the world

All servile labor and recreation is forbidden on said day

Given at the Council Chamber, at Bennington, the ~~Twentieth~~ Twenty seventh day of January, in the year of our Lord one Thousand, seven hundred, and ninety one, and in the fifteenth year of the independence of Vermont.

Thomas Chittenden

By his Excellency's Command

Joseph Fay Secretary